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A Chart of The Latin Verb

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Put on the board a chart like the one below. The present system is divided from the perfect, and the active from the passive by heavy lines. Take any list of verbs such as the one given here. Write on cards all the numerical combinations possible with their corresponding forms. This will make it impossible to skip any of the forms. Thus: 10–B=scrībere; 5–C=dēlēvī; 7–19=rēctus est; 1–60=(pres. pass. part.) wanting; etc. These cards can be well shuffled and the combinations called for at random. It takes considerable time to ask a boy what is the third plural of the passive pluperfect subjunctive of moneō; and it takes him longer to think out its relative place in the verbal system than to see its place on the map. The combination wanted should be called first, before it is known who is to be held for it. If the card system of calling up pupils is adopted, questions can be asked with surprising rapidity. The map will answer just as well of course, for the first or second person as for the third. Not only can a drill in forms be thus instituted, but a drill in moods and tenses of forms, or of translations of forms, can also be given and all the changes rung. Various lists of verbs can be substituted at pleasure, though in order to facilitate rapidity, a list of more than twelve should perhaps be avoided.

Sample List of Drill Verbs

	Present Stem	Perfect Stem
1	amā	amāv
2	iuvā	iūv
3	monē	monu
4	movē	mōv
5	dēlē	dēlēv
6	manē	māns
7	vidē	vīd
8	rege	rēx
9	mitte	mīs
10	scrībe	scrīps
11	cape	cēp
12	audī	audīv

By means of such an exercise, class-contests may be inaugurated, and much variety and life injected. A good deal of good scientific pedagogical fun can also be extracted, while the interest will be found to be intense.

You can make your own charts and cards, but you can help the Scholarship Fund, a thing which you are naturally anxious to do, by paying the LATIN LEAFLET $5 for one hundred maps printed on stiff paper.

This method has been tried, and with good results, but we should be pleased to have opinions, suggestions and criticisms from our readers. The idea ought to work equally well in teaching the verb of any language, and consequently might be of value in elementary schools in teaching the English verb.

CHART OF THE VERB

	A	B	C	D
INDICATIVE	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24

*Subjunctive omitted (16 spaces)

IMPERATIVE	41	42	43	44
	45	46	47	48
INFINITIVES		53	54	
		55	56	
		57	58	

* Spaces for the Subjunctive (16), Imperative 3d per. (4), Participles (6), Gerunds (4) and Supines (2) have been omitted for lack of space. Total, 70 spaces.